

to do this morning at the time we recessed and the motion that you see before you is to change the Speaker's agenda in order that we can get to a suspension of the rules motion that I have. That suspension of the rules would be designed to allow LB 642 to move to Select File without debate or amendment as those other bills did this morning as a group. I think it would be fair to do this and I think it's appropriate. I recognize the fact that we're into the last days of the session as we all do. But this is a bill that does have considerable merit. It has generated a great amount of interest. There are various groups both private and official who have supported this bill, not just the concept of it, but the bill itself. It is an unusual combination to find many law enforcement agencies and myself walking the same path, going the same direction for the purpose of achieving the same goal. This is something that society is interested in. We all know that there have been serious problems with the proliferation of gun ownership. I saw what I think was designed to be a clever little comment in the paper about people banning lethal gasoline because gasoline was the accelerant used to start a fire in New York City. The two situations are not the same. The proper use of gasoline is fuel. The purpose for inventing guns was to kill. Guns were not invented for target practice unless the target were a moving target on two legs at the bottom of which legs were feet encased in shoe leather most of the time, Senator Hall. So the purpose and function of handguns was to kill. The use of handguns in this country to a great extent is to kill. The number of homicides and shootings in America...one American city outnumber all of those in the whole city, the whole country of England. Many people say that if you adopt a bill such as this which requires a brief waiting period that signals the first step toward the taking of all guns. That is not true. In Omaha they have had legislation by way of a city ordinance which requires a check of some kind before you can get a pistol. The police are involved in the process. And there has not been the taking or confiscating of all the guns of people whose weapons are registered. All handguns are required to be registered in Omaha. Now if you look at the statistics relative to the improper use of firearms, you will see that where murders are committed, not just with firearms, the majority are committed against family members and close friends. The vast majority are committed by people who prior to the use of the firearm were not criminals. They became criminals as a result of the use of the gun. So if you wanted to accept the scenario that the NRA paints and say that all guns are to be taken, then you would cut